

Congressman Olver is pleased to inform his constituents that the White House will be conducting its annual Spring Garden Tours on April 17 and 18, 2010. The White House will open its gardens and grounds to visitors on Saturday, April 17th from 10 am to 4 pm, and on Sunday, April 18th from 10 am to 3 pm. Due to this special event, the White House will not be conducting any regularly-scheduled, indoor tours on the weekend of April 17-18.

The White House Garden Tours allow visitors to walk through the gardens and grounds. Visitors can view the Jacqueline Kennedy Garden, Rose Garden, Children's Garden and the South Lawn of the White House. The White House Kitchen Garden will also be viewable from the tour route and a visual explanation will be available to help inform tourists about the elements of the garden. Photographs **are** allowed on the Garden Tours.

White House Garden Tours are open to the public; however, a ticket is required for all attendees, including small children. These tickets cannot be reserved in advance. Instead, tickets will be distributed (one ticket per person) on a first-come, first-served basis on the morning of the tour. You may stand in line for these free, timed tickets at the Ellipse Visitor Pavilion located at 15th and E Streets, where the National Park Service will begin distributing tickets on each tour day beginning at 8:00 a.m. The Garden Tours may be cancelled in the case of inclement weather. To check for the most current information, you can call the 24-hour tour information line at 202-456-7041.

Please note that many items cannot be carried onto the White House grounds. Prohibited items include: purses, bags, food, beverages, tobacco items, personal grooming items, pointed objects, firearms, fireworks, and aerosol containers. You may carry necessary medications, provided that they are labeled and in the care of an adult. Umbrellas are also allowed if it is

raining.

Constituents who are visiting Washington may also wish to explore the White House Visitors Center. The White House Visitors Center, located at the southeast corner of 15th and E Streets, is open seven days a week from 7:30 am until 4:00 pm and features exhibits on many aspects of the White House, including its architecture, furnishings, past first families, social events, and relations with the press and world leaders. The Visitors Center also features a thirty-minute video. The White House recommends that you allow twenty minutes to an hour to explore the exhibits and gift shop. Please note that restrooms are available, but food service is not.

Congressman Olver also encourages his constituents to enjoy the many other wonderful things to see and do in Washington, including exploring the monuments and memorials, perusing the Smithsonian museums and National Galleries and observing the deliberations of Congress.